Express Mail No.: <u>EL 803 540 063 US</u>

Attorney Docket No.: 88265-10173

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Markus BAUR et al.

Application No.: To be assigned Group Art Unit:

Filed: October 18, 2001 Examiner:

For: IMPROVED IMMORTALIZED HUMAN SKIN CELL LINES AND NOVEL SERUM-FREE MEDIUM USEFUL FOR THE PRODUCTION THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the initial examination of the above-identified application, please enter the following amendment into the file of this application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

After the Title and before the first line of page 1, insert the following section: CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS:

--This application is a continuation of application serial no. 09/091,483 filed June 19, 1998, which is a 371 of PCT/EP96/05812 filed December 19, 1996.--

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to include a cross-reference to applicants' parent application. No fee is believed to be due for the submission of this paper. Should any fees be required, please charge such fees to Winston & Strawn deposit account no.501-814.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan A. Fanucci

Reg. No. 30,256)

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Enclosures